

Bay County Extension Council

Minutes
May 21, 2008

Date: May 21, 2008

Time: 5:35 p.m.

Place: MSU Extension Bay County, Third Floor, Large Conference Room

Members Present:

Philip Englehardt
George Heron
Lyle LeCronier

Sara Marks
Doug Rise

Bill Palmer
Barb Wishowski

Members Excused:

Marybeth Laisure

Barb Wishowski

Mike Meier

Others Present:

Ann Arnold, Family Consumer Sciences Extension Educator
Stephanie Blaylock, Intake/Referral Coordinator, Successful Futures
Brenda Holmes, Nurse, Successful Futures
Jan Rise, Master Gardener Volunteer Program Coordinator
Jodi Schulz, 4H & Youth Development Extension Educator
Howard Wetters, County Extension Director
Jodi Wrzesinski, 4H Program Assistant

INFORMATION PRESENTED AND DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Doug Rise, chair, asked for review of the minutes, which were approved and submitted. There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Old Business:

Howie talked about the ANR position. The position still remains vacant. Interviews were held and two candidates did not have masters degrees so the position was reposted. Howie stated that five offices have Agriculture positions currently posted and many have had to repost twice. Bay is going to wait for a viable candidate to apply. Interviews will be held for the two candidates that applied. George Heron asked who is going to do the work while the position is vacant. Howie stated he is going to do some of the work but said plots are probably not going to happen this year due to lack of support.

New Business:

A presentation was given by Stephanie Blaylock and Brenda Holmes about

Successful Futures. They talked about the program and how it works. Stephanie explained the referrals and client outreach. Successful Futures works on identifying risk factors for their clientele and providing resources that the client needs. Stephanie talked briefly about the American Dream Grant that works with school age children and has them identify the needs they have so we can provide support programs. She discussed a program through the Bay City Public Schools to provide new cribs to families and to also provide sleep safety information. They have also started a group identified to help stop drug addicted babies. George Heron stated he would suggest talking to Dr. Kim Prime of the Bay City Public Schools to help with the program.

Howie discussed the 2007 MSU Extension program report. Howie mentioned that Cloverbud camp and a few other 4-H events were mentioned in this report. This is a report that is sent to all of Extension and its supporters. He talked about Cloverbud Camp and Exploration Days and also about how 4-Hers that attended get a \$2,000 scholarship if they attend. Jodi S. Talked about how competitive the scholarships are. Howie mentioned that the China Art exchange and breastfeeding were also highlighted in the program report. Although those didn't discuss Bay County directly we deliver these programs very successfully in Bay County. Howie talked about the breastfeeding club Kim started in Bay County. George Heron asked if MSUE is working to help get business to support breastfeeding and pumping for their employees.

Jodi S. talked about Fair and what Extension Council would like to do during Fair '08. Howie discussed how impressed he is that Jodi S. is working with the Bay County Fair. He explained how Fair and the Bay County Fair Board work.

MSU Extension Reports:

Howie discussed the American Dream grants and all of the grants he was working on the past months. The FNP grants had more match this year; it supports \$130,000 in funding.

FNP is finishing up working with cloverbud camp and doing education at the Downtown Bay County Farmers Market. They are doing a program in the Lutheran Home. Ann showed the Family Magazine and how breastfeeding and parenting were showcased in it. George Heron mentioned a knitting program at the correctional facility he had heard about.

4-H had a very successful rabbit show. She talked about why we wanted the show in Bay County. One reason was to bring a show closer for Bay County 4-Hers. 4-H also sponsored a Shaggy Spring Fling Horse show in May that was well attended. 4-H also participated in Horsemanship for Handicappers, MacGregor 4-H Reading Garden Project, Animal Health Committee, and Cloverbud Camp.

Agriculture is working on farmland preservation project to take to the Board of Commissioners in the Fall. Howie is taking calls and immediate questions but he is waiting for an Extension Educator to join the staff.

Master Gardener had a "fun fair" for new volunteers. They are working on the Vietnam memorial and also planting the Linwood rest stop. No class has been scheduled for the Fall yet.

CED - The new Farmers Market is opening from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday beginning May 27, 2008. Spaces are filling up fast. The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce will be doing a ribbon cutting ceremony. Light refreshments will be served at the event. Howie talked about the Downtown Bay City Farmers Market Association and how professional the project is. He announced that Jan Rise will be Market Master for the Downtown Bay City Farmers Market (DBCFCM).

The next Extension Council meeting is scheduled for Fair Week, August 7, 2008, 5:00 p.m. Livestock Pavilion. Mr. Rise adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

ACTION TAKEN

- It was moved, supported, and carried to approve the March 19, 2008, meeting minutes.
- It was moved, supported, and carried to adjourn at 7:07 p.m.

Prepared by J. Wrzesinski

Reprinted with corrections under Members Present (two names edited) and Members Excused (one name edited) by J. Delestowicz. Minutes approved with corrections by Council at the September 17, 2008, meeting.